

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 IO-13
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /063 W
-----091659Z 111847 /41

O 091411Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

INFO US MISSION NEW YORK 1459

SECSTATE WASHDC 6800

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 0605

USIAC

LAGOS FOR AMB YOUNG

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: " RAND DAILY MAIL" ASST EDITOR BENJAMIN POGRUND ON
ANDREW YOUNG

REF: PRETORIA 0604

SUMMARY. IN SECOND ARTICLE POGRUND PREPARED PROFILE OF AMB.
YOUNG WHICH WHICH SAYS YOUNG TOOK JOB BECAUSE OF SITUATION
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND BECAUSE POSITION COULD BE USED TO REPAIR
US IMAGE ABROAD. YOUNG APPROACH BASED ON HIS EXPERIENCE IN
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT BUT PROBABLY WILL FAIL IN RSA BECAUSE
OF STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS OF US AND WEST. PREDICTION
MADE THAT YOUNG WON'T LAST LONG AS AMBASSADOR BUT WILL BE
POTENT FORCE IN US POLITICS FOR NEXT 20 YEARS. END SUMMARY.

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FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS:

A) MOST IMPORTANT REASON WHY YOUNG TOOK THE JOB WAS BECAUSE
POSITION " GIVES HIM SCOPE TO BRING ABOUT FIRMER US ACTION ON
SOUTH AFRICA". YOUNG THINKS US NEEDS " MORAL REGENERATION"
IN AFTERMATH OF VIETNAM AND WATERGATE AND KEY ISSUE IS " WHAT IT
DOES OR DOES NOT DO ABOUT APARTHEID." COLOR DISCRIMINATION IS

"DOMINANT ISSUE" AND RSA REPRESENTS " DISCRIMINATION IN ITS WORST AND MOST INTOLERABLE FORM". NEW US POSITION BASED ON MORALITY WILL HELP US REGAIN ITS IMAGE WHICH HAS BEEN TARNISHED BECAUSE OF VIETNAM, CHILE, ETC.

B) UN AMBASSADORSHIP IS IMPORTANT POSITION TO CREATE IMAGE OF US ABROAD AND YOUNG WANTED TO BE FIRST US BLACK TO REPRESENT HIS COUNTRY TO THE WORLD, THOUGH THERE WERE COMPELLING REASONS FOR NOT TAKING IT AND STAYING IN CONGRESS.

C) TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA IN DECEMBER CONVINCED YOUNG HE SHOULD ACCEPT CARTER'S OFFER OF AMBASSADORSHIP WHICH HE DID UPON RETURNING TO AMERICA.

D) YOUNG APPROACH IS " CARROT AND STICK" APPROACH"PRESSURE ON BUSINESS CORPORATIONS, CALLS FOR ARMS EMBARGOS, AND INSTEAD OF THE COURTS, LEANING HARD THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS."

C) WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS WOULD DO WELL TO NOTE THAT APPROACH IS ESSENTIALLY NON-VIOLENT-- AND ACCEPTANCE OF THEIR RIGHT TO LIVE HERE.

F) YOUNG HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT FACT THAT TAKING JOB WOULD BE RUNNING UP AGAINST " ESTABLISHED POLICIES ROOTED IN WHAT TOP US POLICY-MAKERS BELIEVE TO BE THE STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS OF THE US AND THE WEST. THE ESSENCE OF THIS IS TACIT ACCEPTANCE, HOWEVER RELUCTANT IT MIGHT BE, OF THE CONTINUANCE OF WHITE MINORITY RULE IN RSA."

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G) BECAUSE EVEN PRES.CARTER WILL NOT BE ABLE BACK YOUNG "TO THE HILT", IT IS LIKELY YOUNG WILL NOT LAST LONG IN THE JOB. HE WILL FAIL BECAUSE OF "REAL POLITIC""AMERICAN AND WESTERN SELF-INTEREST GO COUNTER TO ANY MORALITY."

H) APPLICATION OF " SOUTHERN STRATEGY" TO RSA IS UNLIKELY TO ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL CHANGE HERE BECAUSE OF FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN THE TWO SITUATIONS.

I) YOUNG HAS POTENTIAL TO BECOME FIRST BLACK US PRESIDENT AND WILL BE POTENT FORCE IN US FOR NEXT 20 YEARS, AND HE WILL NOT FORGET RSA NO MATTER WHAT HE TURNS TO."

FULL TEXT BEING POUCHED TO USIA/IAA-STATE DPET. AF/S.
HUGHES

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Subject: \" RAND DAILY MAIL\" ASST EDITOR BENJAMIN POGRUND ON ANDREW YOUNG
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, SF, (YOUNG, ANDREW), (POGRUND, BENJAMIN)
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